CLAIMS

1. A wound dressing comprising:

a solid substrate; and

a formulation of protonated/acidified nucleic acids.

2. The wound dressing of claim 1, wherein the formulation of protonated/acidified nucleic acid is from about 0.1 to about 5 percent of the dressing dry weight.

3. The wound dressing of claim 1, wherein the formulation of protonated/acidified nucleic acids is a coating on said substrate.

4. The wound dressing of claim 1, wherein the formulation of protonated/acidified nucleic acid is interspersed in the solid substrate.

5. The wound dressing of claim 3, further comprising a polymeric film bonded to one side of said coated solid substrate.

6. The wound dressing of claim 1, wherein said polymeric film has a thickness of about 0.001 inch +/- about 0.0005 inch.

7. The wound dressing of claim 1, wherein the solid substrate comprises a polyester mesh netting formed of woven multifilament polyester.

8. A suture comprising:

a pliable solid substrate; and

a formulation of an effective amount of protonated/acidified nucleic acids.

9. The suture of claim 8, wherein the formulation of protonated/acidified nucleic acid is from about 0.1 to about 5 percent of the dry weight of the suture.

10. The suture of claim 8, wherein the solid substrate is comprised of synthetic materials

11. The suture of claim 10 wherein the solid substrate is a polyester.

12. The suture of claim 8 wherein the suture is a nonabsorbable suture.

13. An adhesive composition having antibiotic properties for skin contact applications comprising:

an adhesive polymer; and

an effective amount of protonated/acidified nucleic acid dispersed throughout said polymer.

14. The adhesive composition of claim 13, wherein said adhesive polymer comprises a mixture of a low molecular weight solid acrylic polymer and a medium molecular weight solid acrylic polymer.

15. The adhesive composition of claim 13, further comprising an effective amount of a tackifier.

16. The adhesive composition of claim 13, wherein the concentration of protonated/acidified nucleic acids in said polymer composition is about 0.1% to about 2% by weight.

17. A surgical drape comprising:
a sheet of polymeric substrate;
a coating of an adhesive composition of claim 15.

18. The surgical drape of claim 17, wherein said substrate comprises a sheet of a polyester.

19. A wound sealant comprising:
a fibrinogen activator in a concentration sufficient to initiate clot formation; and
an effective amount of protonated/acidified nucleic acids.

20. The wound sealant of claim 19, wherein the fibrinogen activator is selected from the group consisting of thrombin and batroxobin.

21. The wound sealant of claim 19 further comprising fibrinogen.

22. The adhesive composition of claim 19, wherein the concentration of protonated/acidified nucleic acids in said wound sealant is about 0.1% to about 10% by weight.

23. A skin substitute comprising:
a flexible support surface; and
an effective amount of protonated/acidified nucleic acid.

24. The skin substitute of claim 23, wherein the protonated/acidified nucleic acid is impregnated into the support surface.

25. The skin substitute of claim 24, wherein the protonated/acidified nucleic acid is coated onto the support surface.

26. The skin substitute of claim 24, wherein the concentration of protonated/acidified nucleic acids in said skin substitute is about 0.1% to about 2% by weight.

27. A method of treatment, comprising:
covering a wound with the wound dressing of claim 1.

28. A method of treatment, comprising:
closing a wound with the suture of claim 8.

29. A method of treatment comprising:
covering a wound with the surgical drape of claim 17.

30. A method of treatment, comprising:
closing a wound with the wound sealant of claim 19.

31. A method of treatment, comprising:
covering a wound with the skin substitute of claim 23.